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MEDIA STATEMENT

Support service rejects Health Minister's critique

Brisbane pregnancy support service Priceless House, has rejected claims made by the Queensland Health Minister that they mislead women and act dishonestly.

Priceless House spokesperson Eileen Pritchard has extended an invitation to Minister Miles to visit the facility and see firsthand the suite of integrated services being delivered by the organisation.

"The Minister's comments have come as a complete surprise to us," Ms Pritchard said. "There has been no prior contact from his office, no concerns raised, and no complaints made previously about any of our services."

"We work to support pregnant women and their families in need, and these comments by the Minister are inaccurate and harmful to us."

"Priceless House counsellors are qualified, professional and trained to respect client self-determination while offering accurate information about all options, and a range of support services including: free counselling, mentoring, practical support, educational antenatal care, fertility care services, birth support and early parenting support through a Mums and Bubs group, and well known parenting programs. We also provide support to women and their families who have experienced pregnancy loss through miscarriage, stillbirth or termination."

"We will be writing to the Minister seeking an urgent explanation and requesting evidence to support his public statements," Ms Pritchard said.

"We'd welcome the Minister to come and see firsthand the counselling and practical assistance that we offer."